

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

of the County of Los Angeles

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Gloria Molina Yvonne Brathwaite Burke Zev Yaroslavsky Don Knabe Michael D. Antonovich Commissioners

Carlos Jackson
Executive Director

November 6, 2007

Honorable Board of Commissioners Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR SERVICE AND OPERATION COSTS FOR CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LOS ANGELES, INC. - GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER FOR HOMELESS WOMEN & CHILDREN IN LOS ANGELES (1) (3 Vote)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1. Acting as a Responsibly Agency, review and consider the conclusions reached by the City of Los Angeles, as Lead Agency, for the construction and operation of the Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women and Children located at 1667 and 1671 Beverly Blvd. in the City of Los Angeles, and find that this project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as described herein, because it will not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.
- 2. Authorize the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission to transfer to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) up to \$200,000 in County General Funds (CGF) funds allocated to the First Supervisorial District, following receipt of said funds from the Chief Executive Office (CEO), which will then be granted to Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc. (Catholic Charities) for service and operation costs for the Good Shepherd Center for Women and Children, a new facility to assist homeless women and children, to be administered pursuant to an Interagency Agreement between the Commission and LAHSA.



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- 3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute all required documents necessary to incorporate up to \$200,000 in CGF into the Commission's budget, upon transfer of funds from the CEO.
- 4. Authorize the Executive Director to draft and execute a Grant Agreement with LAHSA, in a total amount of up to \$200,000 in CGF allocated to the First Supervisorial District, to be effective following receipt of said CGF from the CEO, approval of the Grant Agreement as to form by County Counsel, and execution by all parties.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The purpose of the recommended actions is to transfer to LAHSA \$200,000 in CGF, which will then be granted to Catholic Charities to provide services for homeless women and children at a new facility under construction at 1667 and 1671 Beverly Blvd. in the City of Los Angeles.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The actions described herein will be funded with a portion of the \$20,000,000 in CGF approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 20, 2005 to fund the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved allocating \$3,600,000 in CGF to each Supervisorial District, with a ten percent administrative fee in the total amount of \$2,000,000 reserved for the Commission.

The proposed transfer of funds from the Commission to LAHSA will allocate \$200,000 for homeless services and operation costs associated with Good Shepherd Center for Women and Children, a new facility under construction on Good Shepherd Center's Women's Village Campus at 1667 and 1671 Beverly Blvd.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

In order to address the large numbers of homeless individuals and families and the corresponding critical shortage of beds in Los Angeles County, on June 20, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved an allocation of \$20,000,000 for the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

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On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors directed the Commission to administer the funding and oversee all of the projects. The Board also instituted a method by which each Board Office selects recipients of CGF based on agency experience and the need for homeless services in the community, among other considerations.

The proposed transfer of funds from the Commission to LAHSA totals \$200,000 in CGF allocated to the First Supervisorial District. LAHSA will administer and execute a contract with Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, Inc., which will provide operations support and case management services, computer skills training, employment services, and mental health and aftercare services for homeless women and children. The program will be conducted at Good Shepherd Center for Women and Children, a new facility under construction at 1667 and 1671 Beverly Blvd. in the City of Los Angeles (previously designated 1667-16831/2 Beverly Blvd.). In addition to service provision, the facility will provide 21 new one-bedroom apartments for program residents.

A complete description of the Catholic Charities' Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women & Children Program is provided as Attachment A.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

The City of Los Angeles, as Lead Agency, has determined that this project is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15305 and City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines Class 5, Number 23 because it involves a minor alteration in land use limitations.

As a Responsible Agency, and in accordance with the requirements of CEQA, the Community Development Commission has reviewed and considered the findings made by the City of Los Angeles for this project and determined that the project does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

Approval of these actions will allow for an increase in services available for homeless women and children in the County.

Respectfully submitted,

Publicite L. Joven

CARLOS JACKSON

Executive Director

Attachments: 1

ATTACHMENT A CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF LOS ANGELES, INC GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER FOR HOMELESS WOMEN & CHILDREN

Established in 1919 in Los Angeles, Catholic Charities has more than 50 offices in three California counties. In addition to an established track record of rehabilitating and constructing service sites, Catholic Charities provides comprehensive supportive services for its program participants. Good Shepherd Center was established in 1984, as one of Catholic Charities' programs and is comprised of several facilities, two of which are currently in operation and located on the Women's Village campus.

The concept of a Women's Village campus, with three service facilities adjacent to one another, was envisioned by Catholic Charities to address unmet service needs of homeless women in a cost effective manner. Housing and related services would be provided in each Women's Village facility, including long-term housing for homeless women with disabilities and children and transitional residence for unaccompanied homeless women. Additionally, case management, mental health and aftercare services, employment services, computer skills training, and an on-the-job training program would be provided for all Good Shepherd Center clients at a retail bakery.

The campus setting of the Women's Village enhances a sense of community among residents, who are all clients of Good Shepherd Center. It also enables program staff to provide comprehensive employment training and other services to residents in a cost-effective manner. Also located on the Women's Village campus is a historic building renovated for use as Good Shepherd Center's administrative offices, which will house six Good Shepherd Center staff.

The requested funds will support the provision of services and operations for a new facility currently under construction and scheduled to start operations at the beginning of 2008. This facility will serve residents of all Good Shepherd Center programs through employment programs vital to empowering women to overcome poverty and homelessness permanently. The building includes 21 new one-bedroom apartments that will house homeless women and 1 two-bedroom apartment that will be used by the on-site manager. The building will also house a comprehensive employment and social services center with 16 offices, an on-the-job training retail bakery, a reception area, and a large classroom with 16 computer work stations.

The grant of CGF will enable the Catholic Charities' Good Shepherd Center to provide supportive services for homeless women and children in its transitional housing program.

Services and Operations Funds \$200,000 **Total request** \$200,000